

Modern Explained

Progressivism

With the government seemingly under control of the progressive political philosophy, commentators have been struggling to understand just exactly what progressives believe.

The problem is made more difficult by the contradictions between progressive beliefs and actions. For example, President Biden shut down a pipeline project in the name of environmentalism when a pipeline is much less of a risk to the environment than the alternative of transport by rail. Progressives, the self-styled protectors of the environment, applauded his destructive act, seemingly oblivious to its contradictions.

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This split between belief and action may have begun with the generation of the 1960s. It was a time of social and political upheaval, with a youthful counterculture which matured into the college professors and progressive leaders of today. Opposition to the Vietnam War led many to reject American capitalism in the face of communist totalitarian brutality. Drug use exploded even as pop stars dropped like flies to overdoses and lives were ruined by addiction. Sexual immorality also exploded, leading to disease, family breakdown and abandoned children. The prevailing philosophy of the counterculture was "If it feels good, do it" and ignore the consequences.

As the years passed, the counterculture moved further and further away from recognizing the consequences of its feel-good philosophy. People began to claim that truth was subjective, so "my truth" and "your truth" could be different.

The philosophies of “If it feels good, do it,” the disregard of consequences and the denial of objective reality have come together to produce the modern progressive philosophy:

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It is better to feel good than to do good.

Look again at the pipeline cancellation. It felt good to the progressives because the hated Donald Trump had supported it. Making a decision which would do good was unimportant.

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